

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a compound that interacts with a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4, or a naturally occurring mammalian variant thereof, comprising:

(a) contacting the polypeptide with a compound for a time sufficient to allow interaction of the compound with the polypeptide;

(b) removing compound which has not interacted with the polypeptide; and

(c) assaying for the presence of the compound, so that presence of the compound identifies a compound that interacts with the polypeptide, wherein (A) the polypeptide has protein tyrosine phosphatase activity, and (B) the variant is a polypeptide that has an amino acid sequence encoded by a nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes at 42°C in 50% formamide, 5X SSC, 25 mM KPO₄, 5X Denhardt's, 10 µg/ml salmon sperm DNA and 10% sulfate followed by washing at 58°C in 0.1X SSC and 0.1% SDS to the complement of a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of either SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the polypeptide is a naturally occurring human polypeptide.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the polypeptide comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence depicted in SEQ. ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the polypeptide comprises the ligand-binding portion of the polypeptide set forth in SEQ. ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3, or the variant a ~~naturally occurring mammalian variant thereof.~~

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the polypeptide is a glycoprotein.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein the polypeptide is attached to a solid support.